BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION

"52nd Anniversary Celebration"

Indiana Supreme Court Chambers Thursday, May 18, 2006



Hosted by:

The Indiana Supreme Court &

The Indiana Bar Foundation





PROGRAM

Brown v. Board of Education

52nd Anniversary Celebration Indiana Supreme Court Chambers

- 10:15 a.m. ~ Welcome by:

 David J. Remondini, Counsel to the Chief Justice
 Chuck Dunlap, Executive Director of the
 Indiana Bar Foundation
- 10:30 a.m. ~ Audience re-enactment of cases leading to Brown v. Board of Education:
 - **Gebhart v. Belton** (Delaware)
 - <u>Davis v. County School Board of</u> Prince Edward Co. (Virginia)
 - **Briggs v. Elliott (South Carolina)**
 - **Brown v. Board of Education** (Kansas)

Question and answer session with audience, led by Hon. Carr Darden, the Indiana Court of Appeals.

U.S. Supreme Court case of <u>Brown v. Board of Education</u> (Washington, D.C.)

Thurgood Marshall – played by, Robert Parrish, Esq.

Participating schools:

History Club, Kitley Intermediate School, Indianapolis, IN

Heritage Christian School, Indianapolis, IN

Following the performance, please join us in the atrium area for light refreshments.

This Courtroom event will be webcast "live" and archived for later viewing. To watch the webcast, visit www.IN.gov/judiciary/citc.

Special thanks to the following:

Indiana State House Tour Office
Indiana Supreme Court Clerks:
Carl Butler, Robert Parrish, Joe Rompala, Lindsey Updike, Michael Wilhelm,
Indiana Historical Bureau:
Paula Bongen
Indiana Supreme Court Law Library

This program was prepared as a part of the Indiana Supreme Court's "Courts in the Classroom" project with support from the Indiana Bar Foundation. For more information and materials related to the re-enactment of the cases surrounding Brown v. Board of Education, or for other curriculum materials, please contact Elizabeth Osborn, Asst. to the Chief Justice for Court History and Public Education at eosborn@courts.state.in.us or visit our website www.in.gov/judiciary/citc

The Stories Behind Brown v. Board of Education

The famous case we all recognize as <u>Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka</u>, <u>Kansas</u> was the result of hundreds of legal battles in schools across the country, motivated by the bravery of children, their parents, and a determined team of lawyers. These courageous people were willing to challenge the notion that schools segregated by race were equal. Today, we will re-enact four of those cases:

Gebhart v. Belton (Claymont, Delaware, 1951)

In Claymont, white elementary school children got to ride the bus to their school, but there was no transportation provided to the black elementary schools. In addition, since there was no black high school in town, the students had to make their way to Wilmington, over an hour from home by bus, to attend high school.

<u>Davis v. County School Board of Prince Edward County</u> (Prince Edward County, Virginia, 1951)

On April 23, 1951, Barbara Johns led a student strike at the all black Morton High School because the school didn't have a gymnasium, locker room facilities, cafeteria, teachers' break room or infirmary. All of these facilities, and more, were available to white students.

Briggs v. Elliott (Clarendon County, South Carolina, 1948)

When Levi Pearson, a parent, tried to obtain the same free school bus transportation for his children that white children enjoyed he found himself cut off from credit at all white-owned businesses as punishment for filing a lawsuit. Other parents participating in the lawsuit were fired from their jobs.

Brown v. Board of Education (Topeka, Kansas, 1951)

Thirteen parents of black elementary-age students in Topeka tried to enroll their children in "whites only" elementary schools in September of 1950. One of those parents was Oliver Brown, father of Linda Brown. Linda wanted to go to her neighborhood school; instead, she had to ride the bus for over an hour to the black elementary school.